

Fire Island Photo Interpretation Key

Class: *Typha angustifolia* - *Hibiscus moscheutos*
Herbaceous Vegetation (Brackish Marsh)

TNC Alliance Code: V.A.5.N.n.2 4201

CMI Code: 4201

Island Locator:

Restricted to Fire Island

TNC Alliance Description: This community is a brackish tidal marsh of the northern to central Atlantic coast, occurring along the margin of tidal rivers and at the upper margins of some high salt marshes where water salinity ranges from 0.5-18.0 ppt. Brackish marshes are most extensive on large tidal rivers, but smaller marshes of this alliance also occur at the upper limits of larger tidal creeks. The vegetation is a mixture of salt marsh and freshwater tidal marsh species, often with no single species dominant over an extensive area. The vegetation is dense and characterized by tall graminoids such as *Typha angustifolia*, with associates including *Spartina cynosuroides*, *Phragmites australis* or *Schoenoplectus americanus* (= *Scirpus americanus*), *Pontederia cordata*, *Lilaeopsis chinensis*, *Hibiscus moscheutos* ssp. *moscheutos* (= *Hibiscus palustris*), and *Pluchea odorata*. Other characteristic species include *Spartina patens*, *Distichlis spicata*, *Schoenoplectus pungens* (= *Scirpus pungens*), *Lycopus americanus*, *Eleocharis palustris*, *Hydrocotyle umbellata*, *Eupatorium*

capillifolium, *Ptilimnium capillaceum*, *Bidens* spp., and *Spartina alterniflora*. Occurrences at the northern edge of the range are also characterized by *Carex paleacea* and *Triglochin maritima*.

Photo Interpretation:

Aerial Photo Samples:

Field Notes: Characterized by narrow-leaved cattail.

Ground Photos:

Similar Alliances: